

**ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Meeting at Judson University, September 21, 2018

Minutes Approved October 29, 2018

FAC members/alternates attending and their institutions:

Michael Bathgate	St. Xavier University
Danelle Batterton	John Wood Community College
Paul Bialek	Trinity International University
Amy Carr	WIU
Julie Clemens	Illinois Central College
Daniel Cortese	Governor's State University
John D'Anca	at-large (Oakton College)
Diane Dean	ISU
Steve DePasquale	at-large (Kankakee Community College)
Marie Donovan	DePaul University
Thomas Dowd	Harper College
Carol Gayle	Lake Forest College
Doug Godfrey	Illinois Institute of Technology
Pennie Gray	Illinois Wesleyan University
Dan Hrozencik	CSU
Rick Jones	South Suburban College
Merry Mayer	Wilbur Wright College
Gay Miller	UIUC
C. Lucy Park	UIC
Mike Philips	Illinois Valley Community College
Linda Saborio	NIU
Patricia Saleeby	SIUC
Shawn Shumacher	at-large (DeVry University)
Gillian Stewart-Wells	Judson University
Mat Timm	Bradley
Larry White	EIU
Susan Wiediger	SIUE

Representatives/Institutions not present:

Paulo Acioli	NEIU
Cynthia Boyce	Lincoln Trail College
Doug Dowell	Heartland Community College
Jennifer Martin	UIS
James Marshall	Illinois College
Phillip Schaefer	Lincoln Land Community College
Phyllis Soybel	College of Lake County
Adam Tournier	at-large (McKendree University)

From IBHE:

Gretchen Lohman	IBHE
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Meeting was called to order at 9:02 by Marie Donovan.

Gene C Crume, Jr. Judson University President, welcomed the FAC. The Judson saying “It’s a great day to be a Judson Eagle” is more than a spirit saying. The Judson mission “shaping lives that shape the world” comes from their perspective that they don’t change lives. Through their faith, only God can change lives, but we walk alongside and shape each other. An example of this is the RISE (Road to Independent Living, Spiritual Formation and Employment) program, in which students with intellectual disabilities live on campus for two years. These students make a huge difference in the energy of the campus. All our students are differently abled and we all have special needs. The only difference among institutions is why you came into existence, and that should be your mission.

During Q&A, several questions were asked about the RISE program. President Crume explained that the program includes connective internships that try to place students in positions related to their goals. They have a two-year cohort model and currently have seventeen students in the program. Their program is modeled after that of Bethel University in St. Paul, Minnesota and they are considering whether they might expand to a third year. There is a three-layer system of mentors (housing, study, and job-coach). Their energy and level of interaction, particularly in classes and in chapel, is inspirational to the other students.

In response to other questions, Dr. Crume shared that Judson’s total enrollment is just over 1250, with about 550 in residence on campus, the doctoral program at capacity at 36, a record enrollment of adults at their Rockford campus of about 400, and the remainder commuter or more traditional graduate students in programs such as the literacy masters and MBA. Rockford is a unique partnership with the YMCA< which provide child care for students while they are in classes. Our host, Gillian Stewart-Wells, explained that the literacy masters is a thirteen-month program that focuses on all aspects of literacy (speaking, writing, and reading); many of the students are K-12 educators.

Marie thanked President Crume for an inspirational start, and he thanked us for the time we spend on these conversations, because the Presidents do listen to us.

Senator Cristina Castro (D-22nd, Elgin, and a member of the Senate Higher Education Committee), joined us for a discussion. She could not afford to go straight to a four-year school, so started in community college, transferred, worked in marketing and communication and then returned to school for her MBA. She has worked with higher education institutions and has four in her district: Elgin CC, Harper College, Roosevelt University, and Judson University. Many of the students feed into NIU. Much seems to pit two-year and four-year institutions against each other, such as nursing – what seems to reduce pressure is having a good partnership such as with NIU, but places that don’t have that relationship are more interested in two years being able to offer full nursing programs. The focus should be on how we solve problems to better serve our students, and how we can take achievements (such as Elgin CC’s success in closing the achievement gap for Hispanic students) and translate those to other communities. Senator Castro

said that she tends to be very up front with people, but that she also likes to absorb data. When legislators don't hear anything, they assume things are fine, so talking to home districts about how legislation and issues are personally affecting us and our students is essential.

The following topics were raised during Q&A:

The FAC may wait until after November to push with regards to the faculty position on the IBHE that remains empty. Senator Castro commented that there are many empty seats on commissions, and that she feels we get better decisions with more people at the table including faculty. If there should be a change of administration, we would still need to be patient since a new administration would have growing pains.

Several FAC members raised issues such as requiring dual credit courses be offered if a HS wants them, the implementation of transitional math resulting in automatic placement, observations that a HS may "shop" for an easier dual credit program, and that an incoming cohort might have a similar academic profile (e.g. ACT/SAT scores) but require more remediation. Concerns focused on the ability to control the quality of what happens in classrooms and trying to make sure that students are prepared for subsequent coursework. Senator Castro pointed out that there is a lot of pressure for college readiness and frustration with HS graduates that are then placed in remedial courses. Some regional approaches sharing data have worked. People should be having conversations, and in particular, if people have data, they should bring that forward, as that will help — and have those conversations with all representative and senators. Given situations where some HSs and CCs are working well together and others are not, maybe a special hearing would be appropriate to revisit the issue. Now that reform is done, can look at achievement gaps. The goal is the student.

On the related subject of SB 2838, which allows a HS teacher to teach dual credit courses without appropriate credentials as long as they have a three year plan to attain those credentials, Gretchen Lohman provided some additional background about the Higher Learning Commission having approved a similar adjustment period in other states; during a conference call, the HLC did not raise concerns prior to the passage of the Illinois law but have since expressed some reservations. Conversations are ongoing about how to approach the concerns. Gretchen can help folks connect to the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) which is the primary board concerned with this issue. Senator Castro suggested the ICCB reach out to the original bill sponsor to see if they would work on a "fixing" or "clean-up" bill but that she would be willing to carry it if they are not.

Dual Credit is now a part of the funding formula and parents have seen the benefits, so it will continue to exist. However, we can fix what isn't working. We may need an even shorter term, if students will be already out of the pipeline before evaluation periods are done (SB 2838 has a seven year timeline). Faculty should not fault themselves for going through administration rather than directly to legislators; the FAC's propose working groups would be a good approach, especially if they provide data, examples, and recommendations.

The Illinois Debt clock was mentioned and the question of getting out of spending exceeding revenue was raised. Even something such as Pritzker's progressive income tax proposal would take years due to the requirement for a constitutional amendment. Senator Castro indicated that state has a roadmap. The budget that was passed in a bipartisan fashion was a bandaid. The

Supreme Court has ruled that pensions cannot be changed retroactively and the government has to address that commitment that was borrowed from when it should not have been. Damage done by not having a budget will take much longer to recover from than it took to happen. There is pressure to fix things quickly, but we have to make these big decisions right. The progressive tax issue would require a lot of discussions of specific rates; in her opinion, there would need to be some corresponding property tax relief. For education, new revenue should go into needier schools, rather than taking from less needy schools to support the needier schools. However, when K-12 is given money, everyone should watch that appropriate things are being done with that money —perhaps with achievement metrics, but also voters monitoring their schools. Saying that “you’re all democrats, you can override” is an oversimplification because of the range within the party and the variety among districts.

The AIM High merit based scholarship program was mentioned, with a request that we not forget the need based aspect. Sometimes emotional testimony can change a vote, but making evidence based decisions is important, whether about AIM High or medical marijuana or other pilot programs. Senator Castro explained that being a pilot means that after a limited time frame, the program is revisited; IBHE and ICCB can have big roles in collecting data about the effectiveness of program such as AIM High.

Jaimee Ray, IBHE, provided a report by phone. A legislative summary had been sent by email, including a table of all bills that had higher education aspects. What to expect from the veto and lame duck sessions depends on what happens in the governor’s race. The governor vetoed 47 bills and only a few might come up during those sessions, but others might be reintroduced during the next General Assembly. Among those likely to come back, perhaps with variations, are the religious exemptions bill and the issue of BS nursing programs in community colleges. There is discussion about releasing money for emergency capital projects. There is also a focus on creating a base funding formula with additional performance based funding elements, but whether the performance funding would be from new or existing money is unknown. The working group is researching other states’ experiences, with a deadline of mid-April.

Marie Donovan, FAC Chair, reported on three key issues arising over the summer.

First, she worked through the minutes of the last few years to identify themes of FAC discussions, and talked with FAC folks, legislators, and others to think about how FAC can be more effective. She is proposing that we use faculty expertise in research, communication, and education in five working groups that will have cross-caucus membership. Time will be set aside in each FAC meeting for working groups, including special December meetings as a major check point and the May meeting as a second major check point. By the end of the year or sooner, each group would produce at least one product: position statement, research articles, conference presentations, etc. She then gave brief descriptions of the themes — program prioritization & consolidation; P20 outreach; IAI; dual credit/regional dual credit system; “this we believe” — and asked caucuses to further contribute ideas to the topics.

Second, Marie was invited by Al Bowman (IBHE Executive Director) to be the lone faculty voice on the thirty member performance based funding group. She provided a handout of a presentation made in August by the group that is also on the IBHE website. Every meeting they want to hear “what do the faculty think of this”.

Third, she requested one or two volunteers to work with Marie to, by Oct 2nd, respond to a working paper (Strong Teachers, Strong Classrooms from ISBE) on overcoming teacher shortage.

Lastly, she also asked caucuses to make sure they had caucus chairs elected and to discuss whether the caucuses had any caucus goals for the year.

Shawn Schumacher, FAC Vice-chair, reported that the October meeting is at Lincoln Trails in Robinson. We can expect an email and Doodle poll soon, but Cynthia Boyce, our host, has indicated that there is a hotel room shortage. Currently only ten rooms are being held at the Country View Inn & Suites for \$75 and only until October 11th. The closest train station is 45 minutes away in Effingham, so only one shuttle is likely to be provided.

Sue Wiediger, FAC Secretary, read the meeting schedule Marie sent out via email on Thursday and asked everyone to provide information for both representative (main and alternate) if known to aid in checking accuracy of membership lists. All meetings are Fridays except where noted: 21 September: Judson University; 19 October: Lincoln Trail College; 16 November: Illinois Wesleyan University; December: working groups at their chosen venues with official agendas; 18 January: Illinois Central College; 15 February: John Wood College; 15 March: St. Xavier University; 19 April: Bradley University; 17 May: Springfield with IBHE staff; 4 June (Tuesday): Northern Illinois University with IBHE Board.

Gretchen Lohman, IBHE liaison, reported that IBHE meetings have been set. Updated FAC cards will come out when we've been able to check membership. IBHE has several new staff members: Melissa Hahn as public relations officer, Harry Weaver as a systems administrator; Kim Midden as a new administrative assistant for Academic Affairs; and Heidi Farris, a new staff member for private and vocational applications. She suggested that we could ask Kathy Almy to come back if there is more conversation about transitional math. Gretchen also reminded us that IBHE is responsible for four year public, non-grandfathered private, out-of-state, and two-year private institutions while ICCB is responsible for two year public community colleges.

Caucuses met, merging into lunch, and then caucus reports were combined with the business meeting.

The minutes from the June meeting were approved (motion by Tom Dodd, seconded by Paul Bialek).

All the caucuses reported spending the majority of their time discussing the working groups. The Public Caucus (Diane Dean) discussed other issues such as online courses, the importance of liberal arts, educational providers external to Illinois, and achievement gaps, but left them to members to bring up in the working groups. They also discussed the role of alternates and felt that if there is to be work outside of meetings, more voices is better, although there might be an

effect on continuity. Votes on leadership led to Diane Dean as chair, Linda Saborio as vice chair, and Dan Cortese as an additional candidate if needed.

The Two-year Caucus (John D’Anca) discussed some general declines in enrollment. At some schools, head count is down but not hours, while for others both are down. There were some discussions about new programs and administrators. SURS issues: income increases are going to be capped at 3%; on July 1st 2019, there will be a 6-7% correction that could take 6-7 months to recover from, which could affect some retirement timing decisions for those close to that date.

The Private and Proprietary Caucus (Paul Bialek) talked about differing performance between student who have dual credit versus those with AP credit, but any proprietary data shared would need to be aggregated so as not to identify schools.

Under new business, there was a proposal from the Public Caucus that the Executive Committee consider moving guest presentations to the afternoon or lunch time to allow working groups and caucuses to meet in the morning immediately after welcomes and updates while brains are fresher. Also, more working time is welcomed — perhaps we can extend meetings unless there are many members with travel restrictions.

Mike Philips suggested that within the “This we believe” group there might be a position statement about how campus leaders should be selected, given a few news items recently about presidential searches that seemed very short. One of those searches was positively received by faculty and one was not.

Working groups met and then reported out their initial concepts and goals. Note that memberships recorded here are of FAC members in attendance and may not reflect full composition of working groups.

Program prioritization and consolidation: Michael Bathgate, St. Xavier University (reporting); Amy Carr, WIU; Daniel Cortese, Governor’s State University; Diane Dean, ISU; Thomas Dowd, Harper College; Dan Hrozencik, CSU; ; Gillian Stewart-Wells, Judson University; Larry White, EIU

This topic includes a dizzying array of activities at all types of institutions and will require untangling a lot of pieces from the state level to individual institutions to programs such as guided pathways. The connected driving force seems to be a sense of overcapacity that contributes to (or was caused by) fiscal problems. However, it may not have fiscal solutions. In addition to separating out various aspects and seeking to identify what is happening from what is rumored, this group will seek best practices related to these issues.

P20 Outreach: Julie Clemens, Illinois Central College (reporting); Carol Gayle, Lake Forest College; Pennie Gray, Illinois Wesleyan University; Linda Saborio, NIU

There are important relationships with the K-12 community and beyond, including but not limited to teacher preparation programs. What does higher education do with the community? Folks don’t know what higher education does and what it is for. The P20 working group has very little higher education participation. This group will focus on gathering information about initiatives to connect higher education to their communities (watch for emails!), with a goal of poster presentations at the IBHE meeting in June.

IAI: Danelle Batterton, John Wood Community College (reporting); Doug Godfrey, Illinois Institute of Technology; Merry Mayer, Wilbur Wright College; Patricia Saleeby, SIUC

Triggered by a statement in a caucus report at the June 2018 IBHE meeting – “IAI appears to be broken” – Marie received emails and phone calls agreeing and strenuously disagreeing. One of the questions is “what is the data”, especially in light of evidence (see IBHE DataPoint: Transfer Success in Illinois) that Illinois leads the nation in the rate of transfer students from community colleges who earn bachelor’s degrees. This group plans to start with a survey and sharing resource information about IAI and transfer options, with the goal of a PowerPoint presentation and perhaps an article.

Dual Credit/Regional Dual Credit System: Steve DePasquale, Kankakee Community College (reporting); Rick Jones, South Suburban College; Mat Timm, Bradley University Susan Wiediger, SIUE

Dual credit is here to stay, but we need to focus on making sure that quality classes are being taught by qualified faculty. This group will review the relevant laws/regulations while trying to identify what sources of data are available to answer questions about the success of students with dual credit coursework (particularly versus AP, dual enrollment, or courses after HS) when they continue in their programs. The goal is a white paper or position paper presenting information about varying levels of success and what can be learned from them about successful models.

“This We Believe”: Paul Bialek, Trinity International University (reporting); John D’Anca, Oakton Community College; Gay Miller, UIUC; C. Lucy Park, UIC; Mike Phillips, Illinois Valley Community College; Adam Tournier, McKendree University

Higher education can have a significant impact on students. Society benefits from education people. Folks need to know these benefits, but they don’t hear the faculty voice. This group will seek ways to get key facts and positive messages about higher ed out in a range of formats: TED talks, business cards, op eds, and more.

An additional suggestion was that a sixth working group – perhaps comprised of the Executive Committee – should foster and share interconnections between the five currently forming working groups.

Final business items: Pennie Gray and Marie will review the ISBE document. The December meetings will be official FAC meetings. Thanks were extended to Gillian Stewart-Wells and Judson University for hosting. The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m. (motion John D’Anca, seconded by Linda Saborio).

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Wiediger, FAC Secretary